WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A tree climbing apparatus comprising:

a) a first platform adapted to engage the tree trunk while the user is standing thereon, and movable along the tree trunk while the user is not standing thereon, the first platform having a first flexible strap removably attachable thereto, the first flexible strap having a non-scratching surface that does not scratch the tree trunk while in use; and

b) a second platform adapted to engage the tree trunk while the user is sitting thereon, and movable along the tree trunk while the user is not sitting thereon, the second platform having a second flexible strap removably attachable thereto, the second flexible strap having a non-scratching surface that does not scratch the tree trunk while in use.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the user sits facing the tree while sitting on the second platform.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first flexible strap and the second flexible strap are adjustable to accommodate tree trunks with varying diameter.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first flexible strap and the second flexible strap are self-straightening when removed from the apparatus.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the first flexible strap and the second flexible strap each further comprises an elastic stiffener adapted to straighten when the first flexible strap and the second flexible strap are removed from the apparatus.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the surface of the first flexible strap and the surface of the second flexible strap are made of a resilient material.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the resilient material is rubber.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first flexible strap and the second flexible strap each further comprises a tough, flexible inner strap; an elastic stiffener; an inner cover enclosing the flexible inner strap and the elastic stiffener; and an outer cover enclosing the inner cover.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the outer cover and the inner cover are made of a resilient material.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the resilient material is rubber.

11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first platform further comprises a pair of support arms adapted to releasably engage each end of the first flexible strap.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the support arms have a plurality of apertures and the first flexible strap has a clip at each end engaging a selected one of the plurality of apertures, thereby being adjustable for varying tree trunk diameters.

13. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second platform further comprises a pair of support arms adapted to releasably engage each end of the second flexible strap.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the support arms have a plurality of apertures and the second flexible strap has a clip at each end engaging a selected one of the plurality of apertures, thereby being adjustable for varying tree trunk diameters.

15. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first platform further comprises a pair of boot straps attached thereto.

16. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second platform further comprises a padded back rest and a padded seat.

17. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second platform further comprises a padded shelf upon which the user sits while ascending the tree.

18. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a cam strap attached to the second platform, the cam strap being adjustable to securely hold the second platform against the tree trunk.

19. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising backpacking straps attached to one of the first platform and second platform to allow the user to carry the apparatus on his back.

20. A tree climbing apparatus comprising:

a) a first platform adapted to engage the tree trunk while the user is standing thereon, and movable along the tree trunk while the user is not standing thereon, the first platform having a first flexible, self-straightening strap removably attachable thereto, the first flexible, self-straightening strap having a non-scratching surface that does not scratch the tree trunk while in use; and

b) a second platform adapted to engage the tree trunk while the user is sitting thereon, and movable along the tree trunk while the user is not sitting thereon, the second platform having a second self-straightening, flexible strap removably attachable thereto, the second self-straightening, flexible strap having a non-scratching surface that does not scratch the tree trunk while in use.

21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the first self-straightening, flexible strap and the second self-straightening, flexible strap each further comprises an elastic stiffener adapted to straighten when the first self-straightening, flexible strap and the second self-straightening, flexible strap are removed from the apparatus.

22. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the first platform further comprises a pair of support arms adapted to releasably engage each end of the first flexible strap.

23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the support arms have a plurality of apertures and the first flexible strap has a clip at each end engaging a selected one of the plurality of apertures, thereby being adjustable for varying tree trunk diameters.

24. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the second platform further comprises a pair of support arms adapted to releasably engage each end of the second flexible strap.

25. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the support arms have a plurality of apertures and the second flexible strap has a clip at each end engaging a selected one of the plurality of apertures, thereby being adjustable for varying tree trunk diameters.

26. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the first flexible strap and the second flexible strap each further comprises a tough, flexible inner strap; an elastic stiffener; an inner cover enclosing the flexible inner strap and the elastic stiffener; and an outer cover enclosing the inner cover.

27. A tree climbing apparatus comprising:

a) a first platform adapted to engage the tree trunk while the user is standing thereon, and movable along the tree trunk while the user is not standing thereon, the first platform having a first flexible, self-straightening strap removably attachable thereto, the first flexible, self-straightening strap having a non-scratching surface that does not scratch the tree trunk while in use; and

b) a second platform adapted to engage the tree trunk while the user is sitting thereon, and movable along the tree trunk while the user is not sitting thereon, the second platform having a second self-straightening, flexible strap removably attachable thereto, the second self-straightening, flexible strap having a non-scratching surface that does not scratch the tree trunk while in use;

c) wherein the first self-straightening, flexible strap and the second self-straightening, flexible strap each further comprises a tough, flexible inner strap; an elastic stiffener; an inner cover enclosing the flexible inner strap and the elastic stiffener; and an outer cover enclosing the inner cover.

28. The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the first platform further comprises a pair of support arms adapted to releasably engage each end of the first self-straightening, flexible strap.

29. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the support arms have a plurality of apertures and the first self-straightening, flexible strap has a clip at each end engaging a selected one of the plurality of apertures, thereby being adjustable for varying tree trunk diameters.

30. The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the second platform further comprises a pair of support arms adapted to releasably engage each end of the second self-straightening, flexible strap.

31. The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the support arms have a plurality of apertures and the second self-straightening, flexible strap has a clip at each end engaging a selected one of the plurality of apertures, thereby being adjustable for varying tree trunk diameters.